GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:395
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2007
STRATEGY FOR KHARIF PRODUCTION
Rawale Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a workshop of the Agriculture Secretaries of the States was held on April 3rd and 4th, 2007 for maximizing the kharif production;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and the decisions taken;

(c) the strategy to be adopted for maximizing the kharif production alongwith the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the crops proposed to be covered thereunder?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 395 DUE FOR REPLY ON 30TH APRIL, 2007.

(a): Yes, Sir. A National Conference on Agriculture for Kharif Campaign 2007, was held on 3rd and 4th April, 2007. Representatives of the Central Ministries concerned/Agriculture Secretaries of States/Union Territories and other experts participated to discuss, inter-alia, the strategy and action plan for maximizing Kharif production in the ensuing season.

(b) to (d): Detailed deliberations were held on the strategy for enhancing agricultural growth and maximizing Kharif production. It was decided that both the Central and State Governments would make joint efforts to increase production of crops such as rice, coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds during the ensuing Kharif season adopting, inter-alia, the following strategy which is already under implementation:-

(i) extension of area and productivity of major food crops of the States, depending upon its agro-climatic zones, including a major thrust on the pulses and oilseeds sector.

(ii) focused attention to the development of rainfed and dry-land areas, through the introduction of better watershed management techniques coupled with appropriate farming and livelihood system approaches.

(iii) timely availability of quality seeds in adequate quantity and undertaking a Nation- wide campaign on the development of quality seeds, particularly of pulses to improve the seed replacement rates in a determined and sustained manner.

(iv) timely availability of other agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, micro-nutrients, pesticides etc. in adequate quantity.

(v) immediate revamp of the extension system to improve delivery mechanism at the grassroots level.